Public Works (1914) Department.

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
18 FEB 1914
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.

G.O. No. 579

DATED 3 · 2 · 1914.

The Notes
in this G.O. have been printed.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Supply of Periyar water to Ramnad tanks. Recording endorsement from the Superintending Engineer VI Cle stating that Periyar water is not supplied to tanks in Ramnad.

[P. W. 9. 2,000—2-10-12.]

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Government of Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IRRIGATION.

Recd.	1914.	*Enclosures*
Regd.		*Spare copies*

G.O. No. 57 I., 3rd February 1914.

Supply of Periyar Water to Ramnad Tanks.

Recording endorsement from the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, stating that Periyar water is not supplied to tanks in Ramnad.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Irrigation.

Read—the following papers :—

I

G.O. No. 611 I., dated 6th November 1913.

II

Official Memorandum No. 68-I./14-1, dated 10th January 1914.

The Raja of Ramnad had an interview the other day with the Hon'ble Sir Harold Stuart and complained that no water had come down the Vaigai to his tanks this year. He asked whether he could not get some sent down to supply his tanks. It was also understood that he complained to the Collector and was told that there was no water to spare. He was informed by Sir Harold Stuart that enquiries would be made in the matter.

2. The attention of the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, is invited to the correspondence ending with his letter No. 1109 C.E., dated 28th July 1913, regarding the supply of Periyār water to the tanks in Sivaganga Zamindari and he is requested to submit a very early report as to whether it is usual to send a similar supply to the tanks in Ramnad.

3. The report should also give information on the following points :—

(*a*) Through what source or channels the water is run to supply the tanks. It is believed that this would be the Vaigai below the Peranai anicut.

(*b*) What customary supply, if any, is passed to these tanks under ordinary circumstances and whether there are any rules governing such supply.

(*c*) Whether there has been any exceptional treatment in the current year and to what circumstances the complaint may be attributed.

4. Whatever information on the subject is readily available should be sent at once, the remainder being furnished as soon as the necessary information has been collected.

W. M. Ellis, Col., R.E.,
Ag. Joint Secy. to Government, P.W.D.
(*Irrigation Branch*).

To the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

III

Letter—from M. O'Brien, Esq., Executive Engineer, Madura Division.
To—the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.
Dated—the 21st January 1914.
No.—73 S.E.

With reference to your No. 294, dated 13th January 1914, I have the honour to report as follows :—

(1) The only way by which water could be supplied to the Ramnad tanks is by passing water into the Vaigai river below the Peranai, regulator. As the Ramnad tanks are miles below Peranai I doubt very much if, even though the regulator

gates were fully opened and the Periyār canal closed, any water would ever reach the Ramnad tanks. It would be all taken off by the hundreds of river channels that intervene and much of it would be wasted by absorption on the way. The supply to the tanks in the Sivaganga Zamindari is on an entirely different footing. Only tanks that lie below the Periyār channels proper are supplied and of those only tanks to which regular well formed channels in continuation of the Periyar channels exist so that no water is wasted. There is no such thing as passing a large quantity of water on in the hopes of some of it getting where it is required. The distribution is well and carefully arranged, the channels dug by the lessees being as well designed and maintained as the Periyār channels proper. Water has never been supplied to Ramnad tanks and I cannot understand anybody proposing to supply it at any time.

(2) The gates of the Peranai regulator are never raised unless there is a flood in the river. When there is a flood, water is passed on and some of this may reach the Ramnad tanks though I believe it is only when there is a very big flood that any water does ever reach them. I believe the ordinary small fresh which looks a respectable volume of water in the river at Madura disappears long before it reaches Ramnad.

(3) There has not been any exceptional treatment in the current year. The rainfall in the drainage area of the Vaigai was short and there were practically no freshes in the river. That is what has caused the shortage to the Ramnad tanks which depend on the river supply as well as to the Sivaganga tanks similarly situated.

No. 125 C.E./655 (h), dated 23rd January 1914.

Forwarded to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation, with reference to his No. 68-I./14-1, dated 10th January 1914.

M. R. KHAREGAT,
Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

Order—No. 57 I., dated 3rd February 1914.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

Under Secretary to Government,
Irrigation Branch.

To the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.
,, Superintending Engineer, VI Circle.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
(IRRIGATION BRANCH).

NOTES CONNECTED WITH G.O. No. 57 I., DATED 3RD FEBRUARY 1914.

[SUBJECT.—*Supply of water to Ramnad tanks.*]

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Sir HAROLD STUART, K.C.V.O., C.S.I., I.C.S., Member of Council.
To—the Hon'ble Col. W.M. ELLIS, R.E., Officiating Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Irrigation Branch.
Dated—Madras, the 8th January 1914.

The Raja of Rāmnād came to see me a day or two ago and complained that no water had come down the Vaigai to his tanks this year. He asks whether he cannot get some sent down to supply his tanks. I promised him that I would make inquiries, but I did not think that anything could be done as I had no doubt that the reason why no water has been sent down the river was because there was none to spare. He has already complained to the Collector. I understand that he was told that there was no water. You may remember that we agreed the other day to water being sent to the Sivaganga tanks. I imagine, however, that it would be a much larger business to supply the Rāmnād tanks. I shall be glad if you will give me some information for a reply to the Raja.

Please let me have a note at once about anything that is known about this question or what has passed regarding filling Sivaganga tanks.

W. M. ELLIS—9-1-14.

Under Secretary—
Joint Secretary—

Please see letter No. 611 I., dated 6th November 1913, to the Hon'ble Mr. Rama Ayyangar and the notes connected therewith from which it will be seen that Periyar water was supplied in 1912 to about 66 tanks in the Sivaganga zamindari from the tail ends of channels and that the water would have gone to waste if not so sent.

No information is available in the office as to whether it is usual to send a similar supply to the Rāmnād tanks and if so whether there was no water to spare in this year. Submitted that a report may be called for from the Superintending Engineer.

G.V.—9-1-14.

F. E. MORGAN—9-1-14.

Reference must be made urgently to Superintending Engineer sending copy of Honourable Member's letter and asking for a very early report.

2. The report, besides giving information required for affording a reply to the Raja, should state—

(*a*) Through what source or channels the water is run to supply the tanks. It is understood from the letter that this would be the Vaigai below the Peranai anicut.

(*b*) What, if any, customary supply is passed to these tanks under ordinary circumstances and if there are any rules governing supply.

(*c*) If there has been any exceptional treatment in the current year and to what the complaint may be attributed.

3. Whatever information on the subject is now availabe should be sent at once, the balance following when ascertained.

W.M.E.—9-1-14.

Draft demi-official to Honourable Member is also put up.

Demi-official—from the Hon'ble Col. W. M. ELLIS, R.E., Officiating Joint Secretary to Government, Public Works Department (Irrigation Branch).

To—the Hon'ble Sir HAROLD STUART, K.C.V.O., C.S.I., I.C.S., Member of Council.

Dated—the 9th January 1914.

Your demi-official of 8th instant regarding the water supplies for the tanks of the Raja of Rāmnād. There is no information on this subject available in the office and I am making an urgent reference to the Superintending Engineer on the subject and will let you know the result as soon as information is received.

Under Secretary—

Joint Secretary—

A draft official memorandum to the Superintending Engineer is submitted for approval. It is not usual to refer demi-officials in official correspondence nor to send Honourable Member's demi-official outside the Secretariat. The memorandum has therefore been made complete in itself.

G.V.—9-1-14.

F.E.M.—9-1-14.

W.M.E.—9-1-14.

[Issued as Memorandum No. 68-S., dated 10th January 1914.]

Under Secretary—

A draft reminder to the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, on the memorandum quoted above is submitted for approval.

V.K.—24-1-14.

G.V.—24-1-14.

I believe a reply has come in to-day.

P.K.S.—24-1-14.

From the Superintending Engineer, VI Circle, dated 23*rd January* 1914, *No.* 125-*C.E.*/655-*H.*

Under Secretary—

The Superintending Engineer forwards copy of a letter from the Executive Engineer, Madura division, who states that Periyar water has never been supplied to Rāmnād tanks which get their supply from the Vaigai below the Peranai regulator and that only when there is a very big flood in the river any water reaches them, as it is all taken off by the hundreds of river channels that intervene and much of it is wasted in absorption. He states that the supply to the tanks in the Sivaganga zamindari stands on an entirely different footing, as only tanks that lie below the Periyar channel proper are supplied with water and of these only those to which well-formed channels in continuation of the Periyar channels exist and that no water is wasted.

It is reported that the shortage of supply to the Rāmnād tanks was due to there being practically no freshes in the Vaigai river as the rainfall in its drainage area was short.

G.V.—24-1-14.

P.K.S.—24-1-14.

Joint Secretary—

This reply makes reference to Superintending Engineer on suggestions 1 (*b*) and 2 (*b*) of Mr. Stranack (linked * file) unnecessary.

* Current No. 187 I./14.

F.E.M.—26-1-14.

Honourable Member—

Submitted with reference to Demi-official, page 1 of notes. From letter of Executive Engineer, it is clear that nothing can be done for Rāmnād tanks.

W.M.E.—27-1-14.

I have sent the following reply to the Raja of Rāmnād :—

To—the Raja of Ramnad.
Dated—29th January 1914.

I have made inquries about the possibility of sending water down the Vaigai for the Rāmnād tanks but I am assured, and in my opinion with good reason, that it would be quite impossible to do so. I am sorry I have not been able to meet your wishes in the matter.

Thanks for the memorandum regarding the Madras Estates Land Act.

H. A. S[TUART].

Joint Secretary—

A draft order recording these papers is submitted for approval.

It need not be placed on Editors' Table.

G.V.—30-1-14.

P.K.S.—31-1-14.

W. M. ELLIS—31-1-14.

[Issued as G.O. No. 57 I., dated 3rd February 1914.]

Scott. II—10 (a)—7,000—4-13.

P. W. (Irrgn) DEPARTMENT.

Supply of Periyar water to Ramnad tanks

Recording ~~lett~~ endt. from the Supg Engineer VI circle stating that Periyar water is not supplied to tanks in Ramnad

Cross References

waters & wells
Periyar system
Tanks- Ramnad

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 611 I, dated 6th November 1913.

" " " " ...., " .... 191 .

READ ALSO:—

offl memo to the S E VI N 689/14-1 10. 1. 1914

O. No. ...., From the Supg. Engr VI circle; No. 125 CE / 655 (L), dated 23rd January 1914.

" " ....; " " ...., " ...., " .... 191 .

" " ....; " " ...., " ...., " .... 191 .

Print

ORDER.

Press

No. 579, dated 3-2-1914.

Print note

Recorded

Issue

[signature]

31/1/14 D9

the Chief Engineer for Irrgn
" Supg Engineer. VI circle

Gw 30.1.14

Type SE's Covering letter

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